

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 SAN SA 01423 281538Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-03
CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 /067 W
-----013317 281553Z /53

R 272217Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7449
INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA
AMEMBASSY MANAGUA
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA
USCINCSO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SAN SALVADOR 1423

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, PGOV, SHUM, ES
SUBJECT: UNO OPPOSITION POLITICAL COALITION CLAIMS FRAUD IN MARCH
12 ELECTION AND DENOUNCES LAW OF DEFENSE AND GUARANTEE
OF PUBLIC ORDER

1. EIGHT TOP LEADERS OF THREE OPPOSITION POLITICAL PARTIES
COMPRISING UNO COALITION (PDC, MNR, AND UDN) HELD REASONABLY
WELL-ATTENDED PRESS CONFERENCE MARCH 21. UNO LEADERSHIP
CONTENDED THAT, ONCE AGAIN, FRAUD AND OTHER ELECTION IRREGU-
LARITIES WERE WIDESPREAD IN MARCH 12 ELECTION FOR NATIONAL
ASSEMBLY AND MAYORS (SEE SAN SALVADOR 1166). UNO SPOKESMAN
CLAIMED THAT VOTER TURNOUT WAS ACTUALLY LESS THAN 20 PERCENT
OF REGISTERED VOTERS WHILE FIGURES RELEASED BY CENTRAL
ELECTION COUNCIL (CCE) SHOWED CLOSE TO 50 PERCENT, "PROVING"
FRAUDULENT VOTE OF OVER 430,000. SPEAKER ADDED THAT OFFICIAL
PART OF GOES, NATIONAL CONCILIATION PARTY (PCN), HAD MADE DEAL
WITH ONLY PARTY OPPOSING THEM, SALVADORAN POPULAR PARTY (PPS),
OFFERING THEM A FEW SEATS IN NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (PPS WON FOUR
DEPUTIES, PCN 50) TO GIVE SOME SEMBLANCE OF CONTESTED ELECTION.
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 SAN SA 01423 281538Z

DEPSITE DEAL, PSS HAS CHARGED PCN WITH FRAUD IN SEVERAL CITIES
AND AREAS WHERE PPS WAS ABLE TO MAKE MORE THAN TOKEN CONTEST.
CONCLUDED ELECTION PORTION OF INTERVIEW WITH STATEMENT THAT UNO
AND ITS COMPONENTS' DECISION TO BOYCOTT MARCH 12 ELECTION FULLY
JUSTIFIED IN VIEW OF WIDESPREAD FRAUD CARRIED OUT BY GOES EVEN
WITH NO MEANINGFUL OPPOSITION. SAID THAT ELECTIONS WERE "CLEAR
SIGNAL THAT IT (GOES) PLANS TO CONTINUE TO FOLLOW THE ANTI-

DEMOCRATIC ROAD AND MAKE A PERMANENT JOKE OF THE POPULAR
WILL AND HUMAN RIGHTS."

2. UNO LEADERS ALSO CTITICIZED LAW OF DEFENSE AND GUARANTEE
OF PUBLIC ORDER AS REPREEEIVE AND UNCONSTITUTIONAL.
STATED THAT LAW HAD BEEN USED AS JUSTIFICATION FOR BREAKING UP
DEMONSTRATION MARCH 17 (SEE SAN ALVADOR 1323) WHICH LEAD TO TEN
DEATHS AND TWENTY-FIVE OR MORE WOUNDED, WHEN IN FACT, RIGHT OF
PEACEFUL DEMONSTRATION STILL LEGAL IN EL SALVADOR.

3. COMMENT. PRESS CONFERENCE HAS RECEIVED SOME PUBILICITY IN
LOCAL PRESS AND MAY RECEIVE MORE FROM WIRE SERVICE REPRESENTATIVES
PRESENT. STORIES CARRIED LOCALLY HAVE PRINTED MOST OF UNO COMMENTS
ON ELECTIONS, BUT IGONORED OR WATERED DOWN CONSIDERABLY COMMENTS
MADE ON LAW OF PUBLIC ORDER AND EVENTS OF MARCH 17. WITH OR
WITHOUT FULL MEDIA COVERAGE, PRESS CONFERENCE WAS PRETTY WEAK
EFFORT BY UNO AND LENDS ADDITIONAL CREDENCE TO INDICATIONS
THAT UNO POLITICAL OPPOSITION IS DIVIDED, DEMORALIZED
AND STEADILY LOSING GROUND AS VIABLE POLITICAL ENTITY.

DEVINE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: OPPOSITION PARTIES, ALLEGATIONS, ELECTION FRAUD, PRESS CONFERENCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978SANS01423
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780134-0912
Format: TEL
From: SAN SALVADOR
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780322/aaaaashv.tel
Line Count: 83
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: c9b712bd-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3195140
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UNO OPPOSITION POLITICAL COALITION CLAIMS FRAUD IN MARCH 12 ELECTION AND DENOUNCES LAW OF DEFENSE AND GUARANTEE OF PUBLIC ORDER
TAGS: PINT, PGOV, SHUM, SOPN, ES
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c9b712bd-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014